# Representative Hall, Atlanta, Georgia

## Friday, January 17, 2014

# Fifth Legislative Day

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 9:00 o'clock, A.M., this day and was called to order by the Speaker.

The roll was called and the following Representatives answered to their names:

E Abrams	Cooke	Harbin	Mitchell	Smith, M
Alexander	Coomer	Harden	E Morgan	Smith, R
Allison	Cooper	Harrell	Mosby	Smyre
Anderson	Dawkins-Haigler	Hatchett	Nimmer	Spencer
Atwood	Deffenbaugh	Hawkins	Nix	Stephens, M
Ballinger	Dempsey	E Henson	Oliver	Stephens, R
Barr	Dickerson	Hightower	O'Neal	Stephenson
Beasley-Teague	Dickey	Hitchens	Pak	Stovall
Bell	Dickson	Holcomb	Parrish	Stover
Bennett	Douglas	Holmes	E Parsons	E Strickland
Bentley	Drenner	Holt	Peake	Talton
Benton	Dudgeon	Houston	Pezold	Tankersley
Black	Dukes	Howard	Powell, A	Tanner
Braddock	Dunahoo	Hugley	E Powell, J	Taylor, D
Broadrick	Duncan	Jackson	Prince	Taylor, T
E Brockway	E Dutton	Jasperse	Pruett	Teasley
Brooks	Efstration	Jones, J	Quick	Thomas, A.M.
Bruce	England	Jones, L	Ramsey	Turner
Bryant	Epps, J	Jones, S	Randall	Waites
Buckner	Evans	Kaiser	Rice	Watson, B
Burns	Fleming	Kelley	Riley	Watson, S
Caldwell, J	Fludd	Kidd	Roberts	Welch
Caldwell, M	Frazier	Kirby	Rogers, C	Weldon
Carson	Frye	Knight	Rogers, T	E Wilkerson
Carter	E Fullerton	Lumsden	Rutledge	Wilkinson
E Casas	Gasaway	Mabra	Rynders	Willard
Chandler	Glanton	Marin	Scott	Williams, A
Channell	Golick	Martin	Setzler	Williams, C
Chapman	E Gordon	E Maxwell	Sharper	Williams, E
Cheokas	Gravley	Mayo	Shaw	Williamson
E Clark, J	Greene	McCall	Sims, B	Yates
Clark, V	Gregory	E McClain	Smith, E	Ralston, Speaker
Coleman	Hamilton	Meadows	Smith, L	

Due to a mechanical malfunction, Representative Battles of the 15th was not recorded on the attendance roll call. He wished to be recorded as present.

The following members were off the floor of the House when the roll was called:

Representatives Beverly of the 143rd, Dollar of the 45th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Epps of the 132nd, Floyd of the 99th, Gardner of the 57th, Geisinger of the 48th, Jacobs of the 80th, Jordan of the 77th, Kendrick of the 93rd, Lindsey of the 54th, Morris of the 156th, and Sims of the 169th.

They wished to be recorded as present.

Prayer was offered by Reverend Larry Fryer, Hudson Memorial CME Church, Augusta, Georgia.

The members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Representative Cheokas of the 138th, Chairman of the Committee on Information and Audits, reported that the Journal of the previous legislative day had been read and found to be correct.

By unanimous consent, the reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

The Journal was confirmed.

By unanimous consent, the following was established as the order of business during the first part of the period of unanimous consents:

- 1. Introduction of Bills and Resolutions.
- 2. First reading and reference of House Bills and Resolutions.
- 3. Second reading of Bills and Resolutions.
- 4. Reports of Standing Committees.

By unanimous consent, the following Bills of the House were introduced, read the first time and referred to the Committees:

HB 755. By Representatives Powell of the 171st, Meadows of the 5th, England of the 116th, Knight of the 130th, McCall of the 33rd and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide for a revised definition of forest land fair market value; to provide for conditions, procedures, and limitations for ad valorem property tax litigation in superior court; to provide for conditions, procedures, and limitations on the approval of tax digests when assessments are in arbitration

or on appeal; to provide for the valuation of property which is under appeal as to its assessed value; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations regarding refunds of taxes and license fees by counties and municipalities; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

HB 756. By Representatives Peake of the 141st, Ramsey of the 72nd, Pezold of the 133rd and Stephens of the 164th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 48-8-3.2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the exemption of machinery and energy used in manufacturing from state sales and use taxes, so as to add mixer trucks to the list of machinery or equipment used in the manufacture of personal property; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

HB 757. By Representatives Powell of the 171st, England of the 116th, Watson of the 172nd, Peake of the 141st, McCall of the 33rd and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding ad valorem taxation of property, so as to provide that use of certain property for collection and conversion of solar energy shall not constitute a breach of conservation use covenants; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

HB 758. By Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Battles of the 15th and Kelley of the 16th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 15-6-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to terms of court, so as to change the terms of court for the Superior Court of Bartow County; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

HB 759. By Representative Ehrhart of the 36th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 48-7-29.16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the qualified education tax credit, so as to increase the aggregate amount of tax credits; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

HB 760. By Representatives Welch of the 110th, Atwood of the 179th, Weldon of the 3rd and Spencer of the 180th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 1 of Title 28 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding the General Assembly, so as to provide that committees of the General Assembly shall have the ability to subpoena department and division heads to testify before such committees and to produce documents for examination by the committees; to provide for procedures for the issuance of such subpoenas; to provide for the enforcement of such subpoenas; to provide that committees may administer an oath to such witnesses who appear before such committees; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

HB 761. By Representatives Riley of the 50th, Battles of the 15th, Wilkerson of the 38th, Greene of the 151st, Buckner of the 137th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law, so as to change references to certain Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements relative to the definition of annual required contribution; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Retirement.

HB 762. By Representatives Harrell of the 106th, Rutledge of the 109th, Chapman of the 167th, Hitchens of the 161st, Lumsden of the 12th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to uniform rules of the road, so as to provide for procedure for passing sanitation vehicles; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Motor Vehicles.

HB 763. By Representatives Epps of the 144th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Cheokas of the 138th, Kidd of the 145th, Peake of the 141st and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 2 of Article 9 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to funding, donations, property, and scholarships with respect to the Georgia Military College, so as to revise legislative intent language regarding certain postsecondary study beyond the second year level; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

HB 764. By Representatives Maxwell of the 17th, Battles of the 15th, Greene of the 151st, Buckner of the 137th, Benton of the 31st and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan, so as to provide that certain employees shall make employee contributions to such plan at the rate of 5 percent unless otherwise specified; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Retirement.

HB 765. By Representative Stephens of the 164th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 5 of Chapter 13 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to excise taxes on rental motor vehicles, so as to add public transit to the authorized purposes for the proceeds of such tax; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

HB 766. By Representatives Lumsden of the 12th, Coleman of the 97th, Dudgeon of the 25th, Clark of the 101st, Dickson of the 6th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for work based learning programs; to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for requirements for work based learning programs; to provide requirements for local coordinators; to revise provisions for purposes of conformity; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Education.

HB 767. By Representatives Stephens of the 164th and Watson of the 166th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the imposition, rate, computation, and exemptions from state income taxation, so as to allow the use of a previous decennial census to determine eligibility for an income tax credit in certain areas; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Ways & Means.

By unanimous consent, the rules were suspended in order that the following Bill of the House could be introduced, read the first time and referred to the Committee:

HB 768. By Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Meadows of the 5th, Kelley of the 16th, Battles of the 15th and Jasperse of the 11th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend an Act providing a supplement to the salary of the judge of the Superior Court of the Cherokee Judicial Circuit, approved March 22, 1963 (Ga. L. 1963, p. 182), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 25, 2002 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 4631), so as to change the supplement to be paid to each judge of such circuit; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on Intragovernmental Coordination - Local.

By unanimous consent, the following Bills and Resolutions of the House were read the second time:

HB 743	HB 744
HB 745	HB 746
HB 747	HB 748
HB 749	HB 750

HB 751	HB 752
HB 753	HB 754
HR 1056	HR 1057

The following members were recognized during the period of Morning Orders and addressed the House:

Representatives Benton of the 31st, Smith of the 70th, Taylor of the 79th, Holmes of the 129th, Nix of the 69th, and England of the 116th.

Pursuant to HR 1069, the House recognized January 17, 2014, as "Community Health Centers Day" and invited leadership of the Georgia Association for Primary Health Care to be recognized by the House of Representatives.

Pursuant to HR 1070, the House recognized and commended Noelle Hughley on being crowned Miss Georgia Teen USA 2014 and invited her to be recognized by the House of Representatives.

The following Bill of the House was taken up for the purpose of considering the Senate action thereon:

### HB 310. By Representative Wilkinson of the 52nd:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics in government, so as to revise definitions; to provide for the method of filing certain disclosure reports; to provide for the method of notifying candidates of late fees due; to eliminate the grace period on certain reports; to provide for the notice of dissolution of a campaign or committee; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

The following Senate substitute was read:

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections, so as to revise the dates for primaries and elections and runoffs resulting therefrom; to revise times for qualifying for office; to revise the time for calling certain special elections; to revise the times for filing certain campaign financing disclosure reports; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

### **SECTION 1.**

Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections, is amended by revising subsections (c), (d), (e), and (i) of Code Section 21-2-132, relating to filing notice of candidacy, nomination petition, and affidavit; payment of qualifying fee; pauper's affidavit and qualifying petition for exemption from qualifying fee; and military service, as follows:

- "(c) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, all All candidates seeking election in a nonpartisan election shall file their notice of candidacy and pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this subsection in order to be eligible to have their names placed on the nonpartisan election ballot by the Secretary of State or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:
  - (1) Each candidate for the office of judge of the superior court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, or Justice of the Supreme Court, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the Secretary of State no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the eleventh week immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
  - (2) Each candidate for a county judicial office, a local school board office, or an office of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file notice of candidacy in the office of the superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the eleventh week immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
  - (3) Each candidate for a nonpartisan municipal office or a designee shall file a notice of candidacy in the office of the municipal superintendent of such candidate's municipality during the municipality's nonpartisan qualifying period. Each municipal superintendent shall designate the days of such qualifying period, which shall be no less than three days and no more than five days. The days of the qualifying period shall be consecutive days. Nonpartisan qualifying periods shall commence no earlier than 8:30 A.M. on the last Monday in August immediately preceding the general election and shall end no later than 4:30 P.M. on the following Friday; and, in the case of a special election, the municipal nonpartisan qualifying period shall commence no earlier than the date of the call and shall end no later than 25 days prior to the election; and
  - (4) In any case where an incumbent has filed notice of candidacy and paid the prescribed qualifying fee in a nonpartisan election to succeed himself or herself in office but withdraws as a candidate for such office prior to the close of the applicable qualifying period prescribed in this subsection, qualifying for candidates other than

- such incumbent shall be reopened at 9:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the close of the preceding qualifying period and shall cease at 5:00 P.M. on the Tuesday immediately following such reopening, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays.
- (d) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, all All political body and independent candidates shall file their notice of candidacy and pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this subsection in order to be eligible to have their names placed on the election ballot by the Secretary of State or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:
  - (1) Each candidate for federal or state office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the election ballot shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office he or she is seeking, in the office of the Secretary of State either during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the thirty-fifth week immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, or during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday in June, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, in the case of a general election. In the case of a special election to fill a federal office, each candidate shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the Secretary of State no earlier than the date of the call of the special election and no later than 60 days prior to the special election. In the case of a special election to fill a state office, each candidate shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the Secretary of State and no earlier than the date of the call of the special election and no later than 25 days prior to the special election in the case of a special election;
  - (2) Each candidate for a county office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the election ballot shall file notice of his or her candidacy in the office of the superintendent of his or her county either during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the thirty-fifth week immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, or during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday in June, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, in the case of a general election and no earlier than the date of the call of the election and no later than 25 days prior to the election in the case of a special election; (3) Each candidate for municipal office or a designee shall file a notice of candidacy in the office of the municipal superintendent of such candidate's municipality during the municipality's qualifying period. Each municipal superintendent shall designate the days of the qualifying period, which shall be no less than three days and no more

than five days. The days of the qualifying period shall be consecutive days. Qualifying periods shall commence no earlier than 8:30 A.M. on the last Monday in August immediately preceding the general election and shall end no later than 4:30 P.M. on the following Friday; and, in the case of a special election, the municipal qualifying period shall commence no earlier than the date of the call and shall end no later than 25 days prior to the election; and

- (4)(A) In extraordinary circumstances as described in Code Section 21-2-543.1, each candidate, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the election ballot shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office he or she is seeking, with the Office of the Secretary of State no earlier than the date of the call of the special election and not no later than ten days after the announcement of such extraordinary circumstances.
- (B) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where, during the 75 day period beginning on the date of the announcement of the vacancy:
  - (i) A regularly scheduled general election for the vacant office is to be held; or
  - (ii) Another special election for the vacant office is to be held pursuant to a writ for a special election issued by the Governor prior to the date of the announcement of the vacancy.

The hours of qualifying each day shall be from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. with one hour allowed for the lunch break; provided, however, that municipalities which have normal business hours which cover a lesser period of time shall conduct qualifying during normal business hours for each such municipality. Except in the case of a special election, notice of the opening and closing dates and the hours for candidates to qualify shall be published at least two weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period.

- (e) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, each Each candidate required to file a notice of candidacy by this Code section shall, no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the second Tuesday in July immediately prior to the election, file with the same official with whom he or she filed his or her notice of candidacy a nomination petition in the form prescribed in Code Section 21-2-170, except that such petition shall not be required if such candidate is:
  - (1) A nominee of a political party for the office of presidential elector when such party has held a national convention and therein nominated candidates for President and Vice President of the United States;
  - (2) Seeking office in a special election;
  - (3) An incumbent qualifying as a candidate to succeed himself or herself;
  - (4) A candidate seeking election in a nonpartisan election; or
  - (5) A nominee for a state-wide office by a duly constituted political body convention, provided that the political body making the nomination has qualified to nominate candidates for state-wide public office under the provisions of Code Section 21-2-180."
- "(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, for general elections held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of

the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, candidates in such elections shall qualify as provided in this subsection:

- (1) All candidates seeking election in a nonpartisan election shall file their notice of candidacy and pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this paragraph in order to be eligible to have their names placed on the nonpartisan election ballot by the Secretary of State or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:
  - (A) Each candidate for the office of judge of the superior court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, or Justice of the Supreme Court, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the Secretary of State at the same time as candidates for party nomination in the general primary as provided in paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-153, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
  - (B) Each candidate for a county judicial office, a local school board office, or an office of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy in the office of the superintendent at the same time as candidates for party nomination in the general primary as provided in paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-153, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and
  - (C) In any case where an incumbent has filed notice of candidacy and paid the prescribed qualifying fee in a nonpartisan election to succeed himself or herself in office but withdraws as a candidate for such office prior to the close of the applicable qualifying period prescribed in this paragraph, qualifying for candidates other than such incumbent shall be reopened at 9:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the close of the preceding qualifying period and shall cease at 5:00 P.M. on the Tuesday immediately following such reopening, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
- (2) All political body and independent candidates shall file their notice of candidacy and pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this paragraph in order to be eligible to have their names placed on the general election ballot by the Secretary of State or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:
  - (A) Each candidate for federal or state office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the general election ballot shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office he or she is seeking, in the office of the Secretary of State either during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May immediately prior to such election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in

- May, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, or during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the last Monday in July, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and
- (B) Each candidate for a county office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the general election ballot shall file notice of his or her candidacy in the office of the superintendent of his or her county either during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May immediately prior to such election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, or during the period beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July immediately prior to the election and ending at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the last Monday in July, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and
- (3) Candidates required to file nomination petitions under subsection (e) of this Code section shall file such petitions not earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in July immediately prior to the general election and not later than 12:00 Noon on the first Monday in August immediately prior to the general election Reserved."

#### **SECTION 2.**

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 21-2-150, relating to the date of the general primary and conflicts with political party conventions, as follows: "21-2-150.

- (a) Whenever any political party holds a primary to nominate candidates for public offices to be filled in the ensuing November election, such primary shall be held on the third Tuesday in July of the twenty-fourth week prior to the November general election in each even-numbered year or, in the case of municipalities, on the third Tuesday in July in each odd-numbered year, except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section.
  - (b)(1) Whenever the primary occurs during the same week of the national convention of either the political party whose candidates received the highest number of votes or the political party whose candidates received the next highest number of votes in the last presidential election, the general primary shall be conducted on the second Tuesday in July of such year. This paragraph shall not apply unless the date of the convention of the political party is announced by the political party prior to April 1 of the year in which the general primary is conducted.
  - (2) For general primaries held in the even numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, the general primary shall be conducted on the last Tuesday in July."

#### **SECTION 3.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (c) and (f) of Code Section 21-2-153, relating to qualification of candidates for party nomination in a state or county primary, posting of list of all qualified candidates, filing of affidavit with political party by each qualifying candidate, and performance of military service does not create vacancy, as follows:

- "(c)(1)(A) In the case of a general state or county primary, the candidates or their agents shall commence qualifying at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the eleventh week immediately prior to the state or county primary and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays. All qualifying for federal and state offices shall be conducted in the state capitol.
- (B) In the case of a general primary held in the even numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives:
  - (i) The candidates or their agents for political party nomination to county offices shall commence qualifying at 9:00 A.M. on the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May immediately prior to such primary and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and
  - (ii) Candidates for political party nomination to federal and state offices in a general primary shall commence qualifying at 9:00 A.M. on the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May immediately prior to such primary and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, and shall qualify in person or by their agents with their respective political party in the state capitol under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of State may promulgate. All qualifying for federal and state offices on the last day of the qualifying period shall be conducted in the chamber of the House of Representatives in the state capitol Reserved.
- (C) In the case of a special primary <u>for a federal office</u>, the candidate shall qualify no earlier than the date of the call for the special primary and no later than <u>25 60</u> days immediately prior to the date of such <u>special</u> primary, and such qualifying period shall be open for a minimum of two and one-half days. <u>In the case of a special primary for any other office</u>, the candidate shall qualify no earlier than the date of the call for the special primary and no later than <u>25 days immediately prior to the date of such special primary</u>, and such qualifying period shall be open for a minimum of two and one-half days.
- (D) In any case where an incumbent has qualified as a candidate to succeed himself or herself in office but withdraws as a candidate for such office prior to the close of

- the applicable qualifying period prescribed in this paragraph, qualifying for candidates other than such incumbent shall be reopened at 9:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the close of the preceding qualifying period and shall cease at 5:00 P.M. on the Tuesday immediately following such reopening, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays.
- (2) If a political party has not designated at least 14 days immediately prior to the beginning of qualifying a party official in a county with whom the candidates of such party for county elective offices shall qualify, the election superintendent of the county shall qualify candidates on behalf of such party. The election superintendent shall give notice in the legal organ of the county at least three days before the beginning of qualifying giving the dates, times, and location for qualifying candidates on behalf of such political party."
- "(f) Candidates for the office of presidential elector or their agents who have been nominated in accordance with the rules of a political party shall qualify beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April of the thirty-fifth week prior to the November general election in the year in which a presidential election shall be held and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the fourth such Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; provided, however, that, for presidential elections held in the even numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, candidates for the office of presidential elector who have been nominated in accordance with the rules of a political party shall commence qualifying beginning at 9:00 A.M. on the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May immediately prior to such election and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday immediately following the Wednesday immediately following the third Monday in May, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays, and shall qualify in person or by their agents with their respective political party in the state capitol under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of State may promulgate. All qualifying for the office of presidential elector shall be conducted in the state capitol."

#### **SECTION 4.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-172, relating to nomination of presidential electors and candidates of political bodies by convention, as follows:

"(e) A convention for the purpose of nominating candidates shall be held at least 150 days prior to the date on which the general election is conducted; provided, however, that, in the case of a general election held in the even numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, the convention shall be held at least 120 days prior to the date on which the general election is conducted."

#### **SECTION 5.**

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 21-2-187, relating to holding of conventions by political bodies and filing notice of candidacy, as follows: "21-2-187.

Political bodies shall hold their conventions in accordance with Code Section 21-2-172, and candidates nominated for state-wide public office in convention shall file a notice of candidacy no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday in June as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-132; provided, however, that the political body must file its qualifying petition no later than 12:00 Noon on the second Tuesday in July following the convention as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-172 in order to qualify its candidates to be listed on the general election ballot; provided, further, that, for general elections held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, candidates nominated for state wide public office shall file a notice of candidacy no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the last Monday in July as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-132; provided, further, that the political body must file its qualifying petition no later than 12:00 Noon on the first Monday in August following the convention as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-172 in order to qualify its candidates to be listed on the general election ballot."

### **SECTION 6.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 21-2-385, relating to procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, as follows:

- "(d)(1) There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence:
  - (A) on On the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election;
  - (B) and as On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general primary;
  - (C) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general election in which there are candidates for a federal office on the ballot in the runoff; and
  - (D) As soon as possible prior to a runoff from any other general election in which there are only state or county candidates on the ballot in the runoff

and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff. Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period and shall be conducted on the second Saturday prior to a primary or election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours shall be required. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, counties and municipalities may extend the hours for voting beyond regular business hours and may provide for additional voting locations pursuant to

Code Section 21-2-382 to suit the needs of the electors of the jurisdiction at their option."

#### **SECTION 7.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-501, relating to number of votes required for election, as follows:

- "(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, no candidate shall be nominated for public office in any primary or special primary or elected to public office in any election or special election unless such candidate shall have received a majority of the votes cast to fill such nomination or public office. In instances where no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a run-off primary, special primary runoff, run-off election, or special election runoff between the candidates receiving the two highest numbers of votes shall be held. Unless such date is postponed by a court order, such run-off primary, or special primary runoff, run-off election, or special election runoff shall be held on the twenty first day after the day of holding the preceding primary or special primary, provided that, unless postponed by court order, a runoff in the case of an election or special election shall be held on the twenty eighth day after the day of holding the preceding election or special election; provided, however, that, in the event that a special election is held at the time of a general primary, any special election runoff shall be held at the time of the general primary runoff as provided in this subsection.
- (2) In the case of a runoff from a general primary or a special primary or special election held in conjunction with a general primary, the runoff shall be held on the Tuesday of the ninth week following such general primary.
- (3) In the case of a runoff from a general election for a federal office or a runoff from a special primary or special election for a federal office held in conjunction with a general election, the runoff shall be held on the Tuesday of the ninth week following such general election.
- (4) In the case of a runoff from a general election for an office other than a federal office or a runoff from a special primary or special election for an office other than a federal office held in conjunction with a general election, the runoff shall be held on the twenty-eighth day after the day of holding the preceding general election.
- (5) In the case of a runoff from a special primary or special election for a federal office not held in conjunction with a general primary or general election, the runoff shall be held on the Tuesday of the ninth week following such special primary or special election.
- (6) In the case of a runoff from a special primary or special election for an office other than a federal office not held in conjunction with a general primary or general election, the runoff shall be held on the twenty-eighth day after the day of holding the preceding special primary or special election.
- (7) If any candidate eligible to be in a runoff withdraws, dies, or is found to be ineligible, the remaining candidates receiving the two highest numbers of votes shall be the candidates in the runoff.

- (8) The candidate receiving the highest number of the votes cast in such run-off primary, special primary runoff, run-off election, or special election runoff to fill the nomination or public office sought shall be declared the winner.
- (9) The name of a write-in candidate eligible for election in a runoff shall be printed on the election or special election run-off ballot in the independent column.
- (10) The run-off primary, special primary runoff, run-off election, or special election runoff shall be a continuation of the primary, special primary, election, or special election for the particular office concerned. Only the electors who were duly registered to vote and not subsequently deemed disqualified to vote in the primary, special primary, election, or special election for candidates for that particular office shall be entitled to vote therein, and only those votes cast for the persons designated as candidates in such run-off primary, special primary runoff, run-off election, or special election runoff shall be counted in the tabulation and canvass of the votes cast. No elector shall vote in a run-off primary or special primary runoff in violation of Code Section 21-2-224."

#### **SECTION 8.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-540, relating to conduct of special elections generally, as follows:

"(b) At least 29 days shall intervene between the call of a special primary and the holding of same, and at least 29 days shall intervene between the call of a special election and the holding of same. The period during which candidates may qualify to run in a special primary or a special election shall remain open for a minimum of two and one-half days. Special elections which are to be held in conjunction with the presidential preference primary, a state-wide general primary, or state-wide general election shall be called at least 90 days prior to the date of such presidential preference primary, state-wide general primary, or state-wide general election; provided, however, that this requirement shall not apply to special elections held on the same date as such presidential preference primary, state-wide general primary, or state-wide general election but conducted completely separate and apart from such state-wide general primary or state-wide general election using different ballots or voting equipment, facilities, poll workers, and paperwork. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the contrary, special elections which are to be held in conjunction with the state-wide general primary or state-wide general election in 2014 shall be called at least 60 days prior to the date of such state-wide general primary or state-wide general election."

### **SECTION 9.**

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 21-5-34, relating to disclosure reports, as follows:

"(c) Candidates or campaign committees which accept contributions, make expenditures designed to bring about the nomination or election of a candidate, or have filed a declaration of intention to accept campaign contributions pursuant to subsection

- (g) of Code Section 21-5-30 shall file campaign contribution disclosure reports in compliance with the following schedule:
  - (1) In each nonelection year on January 31 and June 30;
  - (2) In each election year:
    - (A) On January 31, March 31, June 30, September 30, and October 25, and December 31;
    - (B) Six days before any run-off primary or election in which the candidate is listed on the ballot; and
    - (C) During the period of time between the last report due prior to the date of any election for which the candidate is qualified and the date of such election, all contributions of \$1,000.00 or more shall be reported within two business days of receipt and also reported on the next succeeding regularly scheduled campaign contribution disclosure report;
  - (3) If the candidate is a candidate in a special primary or special primary runoff, 15 days prior to the special primary and six days prior to the special primary runoff; and
  - (4) If the candidate is a candidate in a special election or special election runoff, 15 days prior to the special election and six days prior to the special election runoff.

All persons or entities required to file reports shall have a five-day grace period in filing the required reports, except that the grace period shall be two days for required reports prior to run-off primaries or run-off elections, and no grace period shall apply to contributions required to be reported within two business days. Reports required to be filed within two business days of a contribution shall be reported by facsimile or electronic transmission. Any facsimile filing shall also have an identical electronic filing within five business days following the transmission of such facsimile filing. Each report required in the election year shall contain cumulative totals of all contributions which have been received and all expenditures which have been made in support of the campaign in question and which are required, or previously have been required, to be reported."

#### **SECTION 10.**

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

#### **SECTION 11.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

Representative Wilkinson of the 52nd moved that the House agree to the Senate substitute to HB 310.

On the motion, the roll call was ordered and the vote was as follows:

E Abrams	Y Coomer	Y Gregory	Y McCall	N Smith, E
Y Alexander	Y Cooper	Y Hamilton	E McClain	Y Smith, L
Y Allison	Y Dawkins-Haigler	Y Harbin	Y Meadows	Y Smith, M

Y Anderson	Y Deffenbaugh	Y Harden	Y Mitchell	Y Smith, R
Y Atwood	Y Dempsey Y Dickerson	Y Harrell	E Morgan Y Morris	Y Smyre
Y Ballinger		Y Hatchett		Y Spencer
Y Barr	Y Dickey	Y Hawkins	Y Mosby	Y Stephens, M
Y Battles	Y Dickson	Y Henson	Y Nimmer	Y Stephens, R
Y Beasley-Teague	Y Dollar	Y Hightower	Y Nix	Stephenson
Y Bell	Y Douglas	Y Hitchens	Y Oliver	Y Stovall
Y Bennett	Y Drenner	Y Holcomb	Y O'Neal	Y Stover
Y Bentley	Y Dudgeon	Y Holmes	Y Pak	E Strickland
Y Benton	Y Dukes	Y Holt	Y Parrish	Y Talton
Y Beverly	Y Dunahoo	Y Houston	E Parsons	Y Tankersley
Y Black	Y Duncan	Y Howard	Y Peake	Y Tanner
Y Braddock	E Dutton	Y Hugley	Y Pezold	Y Taylor, D
Y Broadrick	Y Efstration	Y Jackson	Y Powell, A	Y Taylor, T
E Brockway	Y Ehrhart	Y Jacobs	E Powell, J	Y Teasley
Y Brooks	Y England	Y Jasperse	Y Prince	Y Thomas, A.M.
Y Bruce	Y Epps, C	Y Jones, J	Y Pruett	Y Turner
Y Bryant	Y Epps, J	Y Jones, L	Y Quick	Vacant
Y Buckner	Y Evans	Y Jones, S	Y Ramsey	Vacant
Y Burns	Y Fleming	Y Jordan	Y Randall	Y Waites
Y Caldwell, J	Y Floyd	Y Kaiser	Y Rice	Y Watson, B
Y Caldwell, M	Y Fludd	Y Kelley	Y Riley	Y Watson, S
Y Carson	Y Frazier	Kendrick	Y Roberts	Y Welch
Y Carter	Y Frye	Kidd	Y Rogers, C	Y Weldon
E Casas	E Fullerton	Y Kirby	Y Rogers, T	Y Wilkerson
Y Chandler	Gardner	Y Knight	Y Rutledge	Y Wilkinson
Y Channell	Y Gasaway	Y Lindsey	Y Rynders	Y Willard
Y Chapman	Y Geisinger	Y Lumsden	Y Scott	Y Williams, A
Y Cheokas	Y Glanton	Y Mabra	Y Setzler	Y Williams, C
E Clark, J	Y Golick	Y Marin	Y Sharper	Y Williams, E
Y Clark, V	E Gordon	Y Martin	Y Shaw	Y Williamson
Y Coleman	Y Gravley	E Maxwell	Y Sims, B	Y Yates
Y Cooke	Y Greene	Y Mayo	Y Sims, C	Ralston, Speaker

On the motion, the ayes were 159, nays 1.

The motion prevailed.

The following Resolution of the House was read and referred to the Committee on Rules:

HR 1076. By Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Fludd of the 64th, Brooks of the 55th, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st, Bell of the 58th and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the Seminoles of Creekside High School, and inviting them to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes. The following Resolutions of the House, referred to the House Rules Subcommittee on Invites, were reported by the Committee on Rules with the following recommendations:

HR 1060 Do Pass HR 1076 Do Pass

The following Resolutions of the House, favorably reported by the Committee on Rules, were read and adopted:

HR 1060. By Representative Hawkins of the 27th:

A RESOLUTION commending Mr. Phil Niekro and inviting him to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

HR 1076. By Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Fludd of the 64th, Brooks of the 55th, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st, Bell of the 58th and others:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the Seminoles of Creekside High School, and inviting them to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

The following Resolutions of the House were read and adopted:

HR 1077. By Representative Dollar of the 45th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Reid Mikul; and for other purposes.

HR 1078. By Representative Dollar of the 45th:

A RESOLUTION Recognizing and commending Sam Milam; and for other purposes.

HR 1079. By Representative Cheokas of the 138th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Krista Downing, Chattahoochee County's 2013 Middle School Teacher of the Year; and for other purposes.

HR 1080. By Representatives Burns of the 159th and Hitchens of the 161st:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Homer Lee Wallace; and for other purposes.

HR 1081. By Representative Brooks of the 55th:

A RESOLUTION honoring the life and memory of Melvin Robinson; and for other purposes.

HR 1082. By Representative Brooks of the 55th:

A RESOLUTION honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Renae Wilder; and for other purposes.

HR 1083. By Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Kelley of the 16th and Battles of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending the Adairsville JROTC Female Raider Team as the 2013 Raider National Champions; and for other purposes.

HR 1084. By Representative Cheokas of the 138th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Max Cummins on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout; and for other purposes.

HR 1085. By Representative Dudgeon of the 25th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Nils Eric Danielsson; and for other purposes.

HR 1086. By Representative Cheokas of the 138th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing and commending Mr. James McManus, Chattahoochee County Education Center and Chattahoochee County School District's 2013 Teacher of the Year; and for other purposes.

Representative O'Neal of the 146th moved that the House do now adjourn until 11:00 o'clock, A.M., Tuesday, January 21, 2014, and the motion prevailed.

Pursuant to the adjournment Resolution previously adopted by the House and Senate, the Speaker announced the House adjourned until 11:00 o'clock, A.M., Tuesday, January 21, 2014.